

Bob Jones July 20 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz

GOREN BRIDGE JULY 20, 2024

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠9 8 6 3 ♥5 ♦Q 4 ♣Q J T 9 7 5

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ 1NT ?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠J 8 ♥K Q 8 5 4 ♦7 5 ♣A 7 5 3

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ X ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠K 8 7 3 ♥T 7 2 ♦A K Q 9 5 ♣7

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♠ P ?

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠A 9 7 6 5 ♥K 4 2 ♦K ♣K Q J 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♠ Pass 1NT Pass

2♣ Pass 2NT Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 4 – East-West vulnerable

♠T 6 5 ♥A J T 9 ♦K 7 6 3 ♣A 8

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

P P ?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠K Q T 7 6 ♥J 5 4 ♦K 7 6 ♣4 3

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♥ 2♣ ?

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

Bob Jones July 20 Quiz

Question 1

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠9 8 6 3 ♥5 ♦Q 4 ♣Q J T 9 7 5

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ 1NT ?

Question 1

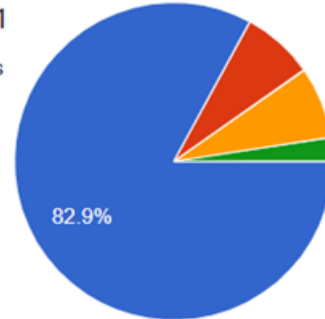
41 responses

Pass

2C

3C

Double



Bob Jones **2♣** The only strong bid here is double, giving you a chance to compete with a good, long suit. Bid 2♣, non-forcing.

Steve Vogel **Pass** If you can bid 2♣ natural (weak hand with long clubs), I would do so. My partners and I play revised Cappelletti in this auction, so a 2♣ bid would mean diamonds or a major/minor holding, asking partner to bid 2♦. I do not want to bid 3♣, so I must pass.

Joe Muenks **Pass** Playing standard, even though 2♣ is not forcing, you need more than 5 HCP to act. Playing expert 2♣ is Stayman so this hand is not worth transferring to 3♣ when 1NT might go down with conservative defense.

Bob Fisk **Pass** I'm leading the ♣Q if the opponents stay in notrump, although the odds of that, given their 8+ card heart fit, are low.

Steve Moese **3♣** This is a preempt because all strong hands begin with double. Let's take as much air out of their auction as we can. Pressure bridge.

Mike Ma **Pass** Over 1NT, X shows it is our hand, and other bids are just competing, unless you have specific bids to show good distributional hands you prefer not to defend. Remember you will be on lead vs 1NT, so you don't need to worry about wrong lead from partner. My usual method against 1NT overcall is Mod Cap. Unfortunately it does not allow bidding 2♣ to play. But that is common to many bidding methods over 1NT. So I have to pass, and that kind of defeats the purpose of this poll.

Bob Jones July 20 Quiz

Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠A 9 7 6 5 ♥K 4 2 ♦K ♣K Q J 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♠ Pass 1NT Pass

2♣ Pass 2NT Pass

?

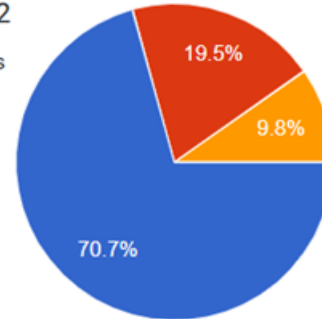
Question 2

41 responses

● 3NT

● Pass

● 3H



Bob Jones **3♥** Partner has an invitational hand, but he might have 5-card heart suit that he never got a chance to show. Accept the invitation by bidding 3♥. He'll know you don't have 4 of them.

Steve Vogel **3NT** Partner is showing 10-12 HCP, and I have 16HCP, enough for game. With honors in both unbid suits, I am happy to accept the invitation and bid game.

Joe Muenks **3NT** It's ok to have a maximum for your bid from time to time, like here. The fact partner has only 2 spades, maybe even 1 means to set them up will take several leads and likely 2 lost tricks, so with some other ace lost, also, I bet we make 4.

Bob Fisk **3NT** Your 2♣ bid was exceedingly wide-ranging--everything from a juicy 11 count to a sad 18 count (Yes, sad 18 counts exist, picture KJ432 KQ KQ KJxx). Partner's 2NT bid shows around 11 HCP and stuff in the red suits. Perfect!

Steve Moese **3♥** We accept the game invitation, but bid out our shape just in case partner has 5 hearts. hearts will be a better contract given our shape, but 3NT is still in the picture. Always good to involve partner in choice of strain decisions. Yes, 3♥ is forcing.

Mike Ma **3♥** Opposite partner's 10+ - 12 2NT, you obviously will bid game. The question is whether you should pattern out with 3♥ (forcing) or just bid 3NT and not tell opp what to lead. Remember partner has not denied 5 H with 2NT. There is no right or wrong to this. Bidding 3♥ allows partner to get to 4♥ with 5 or even Moysian with 4 if her D are bad to so-so, but she has no idea your singleton D is K of course. If 3♥ lets them make a killing lead against 3NT, so be it.

Bob Jones July 20 Quiz

Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠ J 8 ♥ K Q 8 5 4 ♦ 7 5 ♣ A 7 5 3

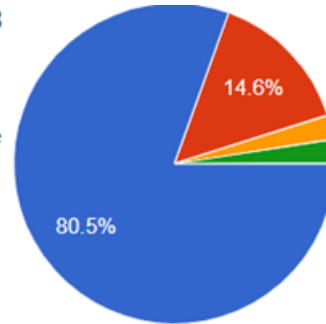
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ X ?

Question 3

41 responses

- 1H
- Redouble
- Pass
- 2H



Bob Jones 1♥ Don't redouble unless you want to defend a low-level contract. Begin describing your hand by bidding 1♥.

Steve Vogel 1♥ The modern approach is not to redouble at the one-level with 10+ points unless you are truly looking to penalize the opponents, certainly not the case here. If I redouble, the auction could be at 2♠ before it gets around to me again, and then we may be in trouble in terms of deciding whether we have game values or only part score values, and where best to play the hand

Joe Muenks 1♥ I'm a huge advocate that with a good 5 card suit (especially hearts, which can be awkward to bid) I'll ignore the double. I then play support doubles on over West's bid. Many play, however, with 10 HCP and only 2 diamonds, I must redouble...West invariably bids 2♠ passed back to me and I'm horribly placed.

Bob Fisk 1♥ I don't like to redouble with 10+ HCP after partner opens one of a minor, my RHO doubles, and I have a good major of my own to bid. That's even more truthier (that's a word) if the opponents can easily run to another suit (spades in this case). If partner doesn't have a heart fit with me and the opponents compete, we'll double them (snap your double card on the table so partner knows it's for penalty).

Steve Moese 1♥ Forcing for at least one round. While we have strength for a redouble our shape says "round suits" so we forego the redouble. Since 1-level bids are forcing, we reserve the redouble for hands where we are balanced and have two 4-card suits and 10+ HCP. A 5-card Major is too good to pass up.

Mike Ma 1♥ I can defend 2 of their suits, so XX is not wrong. But with just 10 points I don't yearn for defending 1♠ even if partner has 4. Once I decided against defending 1S (opps have a 7+ card S fit), I just show my H, 1RF. If my H and C are reversed, that would be trickier.

Bob Jones July 20 Quiz

Question 4

Q 4 – East-West vulnerable

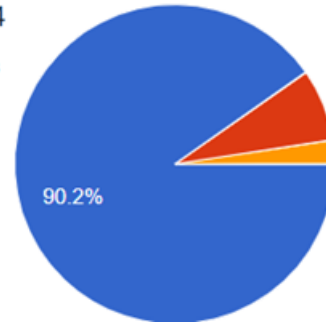
♠ T 6 5 ♥ A J T 9 ♦ K 7 6 3 ♣ A 8

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
P	P	?	

Question 4

41 responses

● 1D
● Pass
● 1H



Bob Jones **1♥** In third position, open 1♥, your strong 4-card major. You will probably pass anything that partner bids.

Steve Vogel **1♦** I see no reason to alter my normal opening bid in 3rd seat to 1H just because my hearts are better than my diamonds.

Joe Muenks **1♦** This is a hand that wants to be opened. In 3rd seat it's even a necessity. 95%? Is someone going to get cute because it's a bidding contest and open 1♥? But why when you have long spades.

Bob Fisk **1♦** Don't open this hand 1♥ like Great Grandma did. You're better than that. Not a ton better, but better.

Steve Moese **1♦** We have an opening hand so we open. True, we might be lighter than this in third seat, but partner never feels bad about extras.

Mike Ma **1♦** What else? You don't need to make a lead directing 4-card M bid here, when you have on the average as many hcp as your LHO (each passed hand has 8 hcp on average, leaving 24 between you and your LHO), making this a partial competition. You have support for both M. I'll raise partner's 1♥ to 2 and pass her 1♠. Make my ♦K the ♦J or worse, I would open 1♥.

Bob Jones July 20 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠K 8 7 3 ♥T 7 2 ♦A K Q 9 5 ♣7

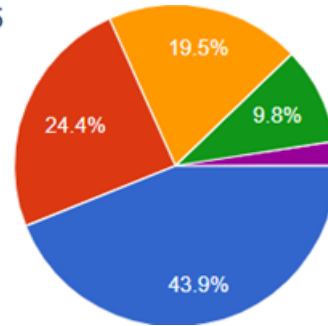
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♠ P ?

Question 5

41 responses

- 2NT
- 2D
- 4C
- 3C
- 3S



Bob Jones **2♦** Bid 2♦ rather than making a splinter bid. It is better to show a strong side suit than shortness on the way to game in spades.

Steve Vogel **2NT** When partner opens one of a major and you have 4+ card support, I believe you should show that support immediately, despite a great side suit holding. Otherwise, partner will never take you for 4+ card support. That narrows my choices to Jacoby 2NT or a 4♣ splinter. I prefer 2NT because if partner rebids 3♥ showing a shortness in hearts, I will immediately proceed to Keycard to see if slam is in the offing. Over other rebids, I would plan to show my control in clubs first to see if partner has a heart control.

Joe Muenks **2NT** You should have priority on your raises of partner's major with good hands. Since Jacoby 2NT (or modified Jacoby 2NT for the advanced player) works so well, a splinter should be narrowly defined. For instance, I play it is 11-13 HCP, 4 trump, and controls in all 3 other suits, so it is used to get to 25-30 pt slams. Here with 3 loser hearts, it's not a consideration.

Bob Fisk **4♣** If you play that your splinter bids are larger, then you'll have to choose some other bid. With my partners, this hand would respond 3♣ (10-15 HCP, 4+ spades, may or may not have shortness, says nothing about clubs). Partner would bid 3♦ (asking, says nothing about diamonds) to ask me for further information about my hand, and I'd bid 4♣ to show 12+ to 15 HCP and a singleton or void in clubs. Nailed it! If partner makes a heart control bid, we'll be in slam (picture AQxxx Ax xxx xxx, and we're cold for 6♥).

Bob Jones July 20 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠K 8 7 3 ♥T 7 2 ♦A K Q 9 5 ♣7

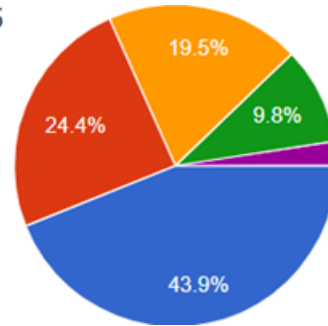
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♠ P ?

Question 5

41 responses

- 2NT
- 2D
- 4C
- 3C
- 3S



Steve Moese **4♣** Several answers are possible here. Few in Cincinnati play fit jumps, but this is the hand that agreement caters to. Those folks reply **3♦** showing at least 9 cards in the pointed suits, 4 trump, and the source of tricks for game. People who play fit jumps reserve splinter bids for hands with controls in the remaining unbid suits (here hearts are uncontrolled). Most of my partners have accepted a mid-range splinter 10(11)-13 or 12-14 or so. This hand qualifies even with hearts uncontrolled. Control bidding takes care of that gap.

Some might use 2NT Jacoby Raise of spades. That's flawed on this hand because we cannot get partner to understand our diamond strength, our heart weakness, and our club shortness.

For a good review of fit bids and how they complement splinter raises and Jacoby 2NT see Robson and Segal's landmark book Partnership Bidding at Bridge:

<http://bridge.mgoetze.net/robson-segal.pdf>

Yes, this is a free downloadable .pdf file. A must for advancing players.

Mike Ma **2NT** Jacoby. It is up to agreement as to whether a 2/1 bid denies 4 S (the way Marty Bergen e.g. plays), but even if it does not, this is the wrong hand to bid **2♦**. If you play Soloway SJS, a **3♦** bid would work well, but very few people in this area do. You need to be in control. As little as AQxxx, Axx, xx, xxx, and you have good play for a spade slam, and that is not even an opening bid. Splinter is not useful. Would partner bid **4♥** with the above hand over **4♣**? Get the GF in, if partner shows a H control, RKC and stop in the right place. AQxxx, Ax, Jxx, Axx and you are making 7!

Bob Jones July 20 Quiz

Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠K Q T 7 6 ♥J 5 4 ♦K 7 6 ♣4 3

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♥ 2♣ ?

Question 6

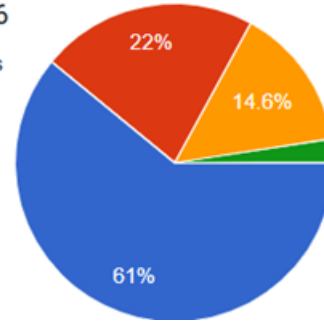
41 responses

● 2H

● 3C

● 2S

● 3H



Bob Jones 3♣ Bid 3♣, showing a heart fit with invitational values. It is a slight stretch, but that is what you have.

Steve Vogel 2♥ Because we have a known heart fit, I do not plan on bidding spades. I believe my choice is whether to value my hand at constructive levels by responding 2♥, or to value at 10+ by responding 3♣. With only fair heart support, I prefer 2♥. If partner makes just about any game try, I plan on accepting.

Joe Muenks 3♣ We know hearts is trump and we have 10+ in support. Let's let North in on the facts before West does anything crazy (like jump to 4♣ if I bid 2♠).

Bob Fisk 2♥ It's critical to support partner immediately in competitive auctions. If you introduce your spades here, and your LHO bids 5♣, what do you do? You can't cuebid clubs here--you have bad spot cards, too few HCP, and soft values.

Steve Moese 3♣ Support with support. Since my hand has 8 losers in hearts, I choose to invite rather than make a pudgy simple raise. Game is promising. No, don't even think about bidding those spades. Just don't.

Mike Ma 2♠ Should you support with support and clue partner in that you have 3 H? Trouble is 2♥ is too weak, and 3♣ showing LR+ is too wide ranged with an absolute minimum LR if even that. I will start with 2♠, bidding where my values are. If partner raises, I will know we have double fit and I will bid game (if we go down so what). If partner bids 3♦ I will bid 3♥. If partner bids 3♥ I will pass. If we end up defending and partner is on lead, I will be happy I got my S suit in. You often hear people say if you don't get your h support in now, next you will hear 4♣, and partner will have no idea what to do. I am not concerned so much with a relatively balanced hand. I'll cross that bridge (no pun intended) when we get there.

07/20/24	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	2♣	3♥	1♥	1♥	2♦	3♣
Steve Vogel	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♥
Joe Muenks	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2NT	3♣
Bob Fisk	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	4♣	2♥
Steve Moese	3♣	3♥	1♥	1♦	4♣	3♣
Mike Ma	Pass	3♥	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♠

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Al Venosa	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2♦	2♥
AnnR	Pass	Pass	2♥	1♦	2♦	3♣
Carl Willig	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♥
Carol Wilson	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2NT	3♣
Chuck	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2♦	2♠
Dave	2♣	3NT	XX	1♦	2NT	3♣
Dave D.	Pass	3NT	XX	1♦	2NT	2♥
Dean Congbalay	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♥
Doug Edwards	Pass	3NT	1♥	Pass	2NT	2♥
Ed	Pass	3NT	Pass	1♦	2NT	2♥
Gary Herrington	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♥
Greg	Pass	Pass	XX	1♦	2NT	2♥
James D	3♣	3NT	1♥	1♦	3♣	2♥
James Jacobson	Pass	Pass	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♥
Jay Gala	Pass	3NT	XX	1♦	2NT	2♥
JohnMcQ	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2♦	2♥
Jusie Clendening	Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦	2♥
Kevin C.	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	3♣	2♥
Kevin H.	3♣	3NT	1♥	1♦	4♣	3♣
Lanny	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	3♣	2♠
Mike Burns	Pass	Pass	1♥	1♦	4♣	3♣
Nell Wickstrom	Pass	Pass	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♥
Pam Campbell	2♣	3NT	1♥	1♦	3♣	2♠
Pete Outcalt	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	4♣	3♣
Rick Read	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2♦	2♥
Robert Nowacki	X	Pass	XX	1♦	2♦	2♥
Rod	Pass	Pass	1♥	1♦	4♣	3♥
Sue	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2♦	2♥
Terri Mackey	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♥
Vijay	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	4♣	2♥
Zigang Pan	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	4♣	2♥
	Pass	3♥	1♥	1♦	2♦	2♥
	Pass	3NT	1♥	Pass	3♠	2♠
	Pass	3NT	XX	1♦	2NT	2♠
	Pass	3NT	1♥	1♦	2NT	2♥